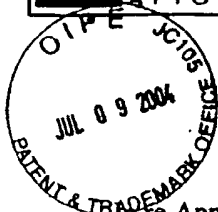




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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: BRAND, Fabien *et al.*

Serial No.: 10/019,122

Confirmation No.: 8280

Filed: May 20, 2002

For: WATER BASED WELLBORE FLUID

Group Art Unit: 1712

Examiner: TUCKER, Philip C.

Atty. Dkt. No.: 11836.0677.PCUS00
(PA-00089)

RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING 37 C.F.R. 1.8	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date below:	
July 7, 2004 Date	<i>Michelle</i> Signature

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS:

The following is in response to the Office Action mailed April 23, 2004 for which the three-month date for response is July 23, 2004.

As Applicants have filed a timely response, no fees are believed to be due. However, should the Commissioner determine that any fee or extension of time is necessary regarding this application, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct the fee from Deposit Account No. 01-2508, Order No. 11836.0677.PCUS00.

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Serial No.: 10/019,122
Applicant: BRAND, Fabien *et al.*
Reply to Office Action of April 23, 2004
Atty. Ref.: 11836.0677.PCUS00
PA-00089

The undersigned representative requests any extension of time that may be deemed necessary to further the prosecution of this application.

The undersigned representative authorizes the Commissioner to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 or 1.17 that may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 01-2508, referencing Order No. 11836.0677.PCUS00.

In order to facilitate the resolution of any issues or questions presented by this paper, the Examiner should directly contact the undersigned by phone to further the discussion.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle C. Replogle
Patent Attorney

Reg. No. 54,394

Tel. 713.787.1535

Date: July 7, 2004